

Brand Bureau Investigation Leads To Thoroughbreds Return

An investigation by the Division of Animal Industry's Brand Bureau has led to the recovery of two missing thoroughbred horses in Davis County. Third degree felony theft of livestock charges were filed by the Davis County Sheriff's Office against Judy K. Casella of Chloride, Arizona, and Dennis Ronald Swenson, of Kingman Az.

According to Brands Bureau Chief, Terry Menlove, Casella and Swenson contacted the owner of the horses April 13, 2003 and offered to take the two thoroughbreds to Arizona for training. Menlove said that the horse's owner, Mae Wynn of South Weber declined the offer and soon after discovered the horses missing from her corral.

The horses are valued at about \$2,000 each.

UDAF brands investigators, along with Davis County Sheriff's Deputies, contacted the Arizona Department of Agriculture who discovered the horses in the possession of the suspects.

Casella and Swenson face maximum fines of \$5,000 and up to five years in prison if convicted.

The UDAF investigates an average of six missing livestock each month. Several of those cases are taken to criminal court each year.

Last year the department returned livestock valued at an estimated \$1.1 million to their owners.

For more information about reporting missing livestock visit: <http://ag.utah.gov/animind/brands.html>

Below: Nave's Prime Time, and Navegante's Seven, are returned to their Davis County owner after a Brands Bureau investigation discovered them in Arizona in May.



ANIMAL HEALTH SAFETY REMAINS AGGRESSIVE IN UTAH AS CANADA REPORTS ONE CASE OF MAD COW DISEASE

Salt Lake City – Preventative measures to guard against the introduction of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (Mad Cow Disease) into Utah remain aggressive as the Canadian government announces the discovery of a BSE-infected cow in the Province of Alberta.

The Division of Animal Industry reminds the public that aggressive Mad Cow Disease prevention measures are in place to guard the state's 900,000 cattle.

"Utah, and all other U.S. states are free from BSE, thanks to the stepped up preventative measures that have been in place for years," said Commissioner of Agriculture and Food, Cary G. Peterson. "Tens of thousands of cattle from Utah and elsewhere are tested yearly, with no signs of mad cow disease," he added.

The risk to human health and the possibility of transmission to animals in the United States is very low.

The USDA has placed Canada under its BSE restriction guidelines and will not accept any ruminants or ruminant products from Canada pending further investigation.

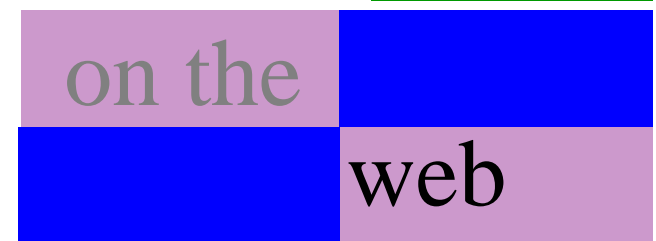
In Utah, the UDAF regularly inspect cattle for symptoms of the disease. Strict feeding regulations that greatly reduce the threat of the spread of the disease remain in place.

The most common means for cows to contract the disease is for them to consume feed containing animal byproducts. This practice was banned throughout the United States in 1997 after the discovery of BSE in Great Britain in 1986. Cows and other ruminant animals in Utah are prevented from being fed animal byproducts that could contain infected material.

UDAF veterinarians inspect Utah feed manufacturers and rendering plants annually to ensure compliance with the FDA ban.

The USDA bans the importation of ruminants from BSE infected countries. Canada will now be added to that list.

More information on BSE is available at: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/issues/bse/bse.html>



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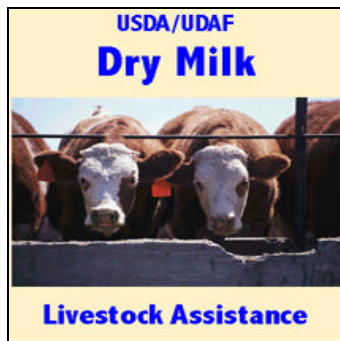
IMPORTANT UPDATE TO THE NON-FAT DRY MILK ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The USDA has determined that non-fat dry powdered milk that is being offered as drought relief to Utah livestock ranchers may be feed to non-foundation cattle and other livestock.

All uses of the NDM is permitted by the original qualifying livestock owner, as well as others who receive it in trade or sale, such as commercial feed processors, feed dealers or others, provided there is no violation of the following conditions:

- (1) The NDM may not be used as a replacement for whey or whey products;
- (2) The NDM may not be processed for or used for human consumption;
- (3) NDM may be bartered for other feeds that contain some percentage of NDM;
- (4) All NDM must be fed in an eligible state; the eligible states include: Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.
- (5) NDM may be processed outside the eligible states if returned by or from the processor directly to the eligible states and consumed in one of the eligible states;
- (6) Consumption of the NDM by livestock normally housed in one of the eligible states will be considered to be consumption in an eligible state even though the herd is quartered temporarily elsewhere;
- (7) The dealer/manufacturer shall, upon inquiry, certify to the disposition of the NDM for the proper use and certify to compliance with all limitations of this agreement on the use of the NDM and the products made from it; and
- (8) The suggested minimum value for the bartering of the nonfat dry milk is \$80 per ton.

- Livestock owners or others who receive the NDM



may elect to delay receiving the product no later than the fall of 2003.

- Participating livestock owners who anticipate bartering their product with a company or individual, should make arrangements with that party to receive their NDM.
- The UDAF is in the process of creating a list of qualifying dealers who may participate in the program.
- A registration sheet for dealers/manufacturers is posted on the UDAF web site at, www.ag.utah.gov/
- A county coordinating committee is being formed to streamline the distribution of the NDM when it arrives.
- Questions or comments regarding where and how the delivery should take place in your county should be addressed to this committee.
- The makeup of the committee will include members of the Utah Farmer's Union, Utah Farm Bureau, USDA Farm Service Agency, Utah Woolgrowers Association, Utah Cattlemen's Association, USU Extension Service, and Utah Department of Agriculture and Food.

Read the latest about the program at: www.ag.utah.gov/



UDAF IT team receives Outstanding Online Application Award from (left) Governor, Michael Leavitt; Commissioner, Cary G. Peterson; Admin. Services Director, Renee Matsuura; IT Manager, Ken Gee; Accountant, Claudette Walcott; Account Tech, Linda Lewis; IT Analyst, Anne Johnson; and Team Leader, Ruth Ann Garner.

IT Team Wins Top Award For e-Government System

The UDAF's Information Technology team developed a computer program that took advantage of the ease of use of the Internet to make life simpler for the thousands of people who must renew their licenses each year. For that achievement in customer service, as well as cost cutting efficiency, the department won the State's Chief Information Officer (CIO) Award for Outstanding Online Application. The recognition was awarded by Governor Mike Leavitt during ceremonies in Salt Lake City, April 29, 2003. The IT team of Ruth Ann Garner, Ken Gee, Anne Johnson, Linda Lewis, Claudette Walcott, and Division Director, Renee Matsuura developed an Internet-based process by which customers could renew their licenses with a few clicks of their computer mouse.

In order to convert the traditional "hard copy" renewal system to a "computer data" system, the IT team created a new software program. Bar codes were added to each renewal form to speed the entry of vital information such as name, address, type of license, fee, and other information.

Ordinarily it took 240 hours of employee time to process the nearly 14,000 license renewals by hand. The new system requires just three hours of employee time to accomplish the same result. The cost savings is put at \$5,104. Not to mention the time and expense of the thousands of people who now don't need to travel to Salt Lake City to conduct their business.

The IT team is now turning its attention to streamlining the brand renewal system where each five years more than 20,000 brands must be renewed.

The department won the CIO award because of its innovation, and partly because the renewal program included the ability to search current licenses on record.

The UDAF award was one of 13 given to agencies and private companies who helped advance the governor's vision of providing 24-hour a day, 7-day a week service via e-Government services.

Declaration

Whereas, professionals from the Department of Agriculture and Food have created an application for online renewal of licenses and search of current licensee, and
Whereas, the Department of Agriculture and Food licenses a broad range of products and producers, and
Whereas, The UDAF, through its online application, is more effectively providing services to businesses and the public,
Now Therefore, I Michael O. Leavitt, Governor of the state of Utah, do hereby award the Department of Agriculture and Food's Online License Renewal and Search of Current Licensees with the

Outstanding Online Application Award